



L. SIMONSON • WEST • LOWE

STEEL

4

MAY 94

\$1.50 US

\$2.00 CAN

70p UK

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY



DIRECT SALES



00411

7 61941 20176 4

DESPITE THE  
BEST EFFORTS  
OF D.C. FIRE  
FIGHTERS, THIS  
**INFERNO** IS  
RAGING OUT  
OF CONTROL...

...DESTROYING  
THE MAIN HEAD-  
QUARTERS OF  
**AMERTEK, IN-**  
**TERNATIONAL.**

OF COURSE  
IT WAS ARSON.  
THAT "SUPERHERO"  
**STEEL** DID IT.

WAS IT  
**ARSON,**  
COLONEL  
WESTON?

**STEEL?**  
WHY DO YOU  
SUSPECT  
HIM?

SUSPECT?  
I SAW HIM,  
DAMMIT!  
THERE WERE  
WITNESSES!

BUT  
WHY--?

HOW WOULD  
I KNOW? IN-  
VESTIGATION  
IS YOUR  
DEPART-  
MENT!

BUT I DO  
KNOW THIS!  
WHILE A FEW  
BUILDINGS ARE  
STILL STANDING  
INSIDE THE  
**BELTWAY...**



STEEL 4, May, 1994. Published monthly by DC Comics, 1325 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to STEEL, DC Comics Subscriptions, P.O. Box 0528, Baldwin, NY 11510. Annual subscription rate \$18.00. Canadian subscribers must add \$8.00 for postage and GST. GST # is R125821072. All other foreign countries must add \$12.00 for postage. U.S. funds only. Copyright © 1994 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. For advertising space contact: Tom Ballou, (212) 636-5520. Printed on recyclable paper. Printed in Canada.

DC Comics, A division of Warner Bros.-A Time Warner Entertainment Company

G-9622

num deplume scan

"...SOMEONE  
SHOULD STOP  
THAT MANIAC!"

HAVING A  
SKYLIGHT IN-  
STALLED WHEN  
REPAIRS WERE  
BEING MADE  
TO THE  
HOUSE...

JUST TOO  
TIRED TO TAKE  
A CIRCUITOUS  
ROUTE HOME.

PITCHED  
BATTLE WITH  
AMERTEK'S  
GOOMS REALLY  
TOOK IT OUT  
OF ME.

GUESS I'M  
LUCKY TO  
BE ALIVE.

MUST BE  
CRAZY, FLYING  
OVER WASHINGTON  
LIKE THIS...

# BAD TIMES

STORY: LOUISE SIMONSON PENCILLER: KEVIN WEST  
INKER: JOHN LOWE LETTERER: PAT BROUSSEAU  
COLORIST: GINA GOING EDITOR: FRANK PITTAZZI

STEEL CREATED BY LOUISE SIMONSON & JON BOGDANOVE

SET IT UP  
SO THE  
COLONEL  
WOULD BE  
READY  
FOR ME.

GOT MORE  
DESTRUCTION  
THAN I  
BARGAINED  
FOR.

FEEL LIKE  
I'VE BEEN  
THROUGH  
A MEAT  
GRINDER.

BUT IF I GOT  
ENOUGH DATA  
TO LAUNCH AN  
INVESTIGATION,  
IT WAS WORTH  
IT!



NO, PRO!  
A "C"! FOR  
THE CENAVIE  
SHARKS.

I KNOW  
"C"! I  
LEARNED IT  
ON SESAME  
STREET.

NEXT  
MORNING...



YOU MAKE  
IT LIKE  
THIS!  
IT'S A  
SIGN WE  
BELONG!  
THAT WE'RE  
PRO-  
TECTED!

LIKE  
THIS?

CLOSE. YOU  
GOTTA USE YOUR  
OTHER HAND,  
THOUGH. LOOK  
AT PARLENE.





ONE DETAILED EXPLANATION LATER...



IRONST

THAT KID JEMAH'L'S UNCLE WANTS TO KNOW HIS WHEREABOUTS FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

WHEN IS YOUNG SPIRAL'S FUNERAL?

TOMORROW, YOU DID RIGHT KASTIN' THE LITTLE SNITCH, AMIGRAM.

COWBOY WILL SEE THAT HIS SHARKS SHOW UP AS A FURTHER LESSON ON WHAT DISLOYALTY TO THE GANG WILL MEAN.

JEMAH'L WILL BE THERE. THE UNCLE WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY ATTEND, ALSO.

TAKE ME TO THE COLONEL.

THIS IS S-STAR. GIVE IT TO ONE OF YOUR TARBABIES.

BUT PICK ONE WHO'S EXPENDABLE. THIS FORM OF TAR IS MORE POWERFUL, BUT IT CAN BE LETHAL.

YOU WANT HIM TO ATTACK IRONS DURING THE FUNERAL?

AFFIRMATIVE.

WHEN HE'S OUT OF HIS ARMOR AND HELPLESS TO DEFEND HIMSELF.

... THEN YOU SLIDE THE KNOT UP TO YOUR NECK, PACO! SEE?

YEAH, I WANNA COME TO THE FUNERAL, TOO!

YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF FUNERALS WHEN YOU'RE BIG. YOU STAY HERE WITH DARLENE AN' GRANDPA.

I KNOW. I WISH HE WAS. I WISH YOU AND JEM WAS MY BROTHERS TOO!

STEAD OF ME BEIN' JUST A FOSTER KID.

HA! HA! HE'S NOT YOUR GRANDPA.

ME, TOO, HOLMES! YOU'RE ACE KOOL! WOULDN'T MIND HAVIN' A GUY LIKE YOU...

"...IN THE FAMILY!"

LOOK, JEM. THE CENRAVE SHARKS MARKIN' THEIR TURF.

GANG MEMBERS MAY LOOK COOL, TYKE, BUT THEY'RE BAD NEWS.

THEY SELL DRUGS AND WEAPONS. THEY FLOUT THE LAW. THEY--

HOW IS WHAT YOU DO SO DIFFERENT?

I SAW WHAT YOU DID ON TV. YOU DO ANYTHING YOU WANT.

FLOUT LAW, IGNORE IT, TWIST IT, TAKE IT INTO YOUR OWN HANDS.

I FEEL SO SORRY FOR SPIRAL'S PARENTS. THEY LOVED THAT BOY.

WHAT HAPPENED. IT'S A CRYIN' SHAME.

THIS WAS A NICE NEIGHBORHOOD WHEN YOUR UNCLE JOHN FIRST BOUGHT US THAT HOUSE, JEM.

BOUGHT IT WITH SOME OF THE FIRST REAL MONEY HE EARNED. HE WAS SO PROUD.

THE HOUSE IS STILL NICE. IT'S THE NEIGHBORHOOD'S FALLIN' APART.

IT'S THE GANGS AN' DRUGS DOIN' IT, SON. AN' KNOWIN' YOUR UNCLE ...

"...HE'LL PROBABLY TRY  
AN' STOP IT ALL  
SINGLE-HANDED."

HEY, JEM,  
LOOK! COWBOY'S  
BEHIND US! HE'S  
THE BOSS OF  
YOUR GANG,  
RIGHT?

SHHHH!

...A BOY  
TAKEN FROM  
US TOO SOON,  
WHO NOW DWELLS  
IN THE HOUSE  
OF THE LORD.  
AMEN.

AMEN.

SPIRAL'S PARENTS...  
HEARTBROKEN.  
HAVE TO SAVE JEMAH'L  
FROM SPIRAL'S FATE.

MAKE HIM  
SEE THE  
GANG'S WAY  
IS WRONG.  
THAT MIGHT  
ISN'T RIGHT.

BUT HOW DO I  
MAKE HIM LISTEN  
WHEN HE'S BEEN  
ME TAKE THE  
LAW INTO MY  
OWN HANDS?

JEM! COW-  
BOY'S SMILIN'  
AT ME! HE  
SIGNALED ME  
BACK.

TURN AROUND,  
TYKE, AN' BEHAVE.

BUT--

I THOUGHT  
BEIN' A SHARK  
WOULD PROTECT  
MY FAMILY.

IT LOOKED  
LIKE THE  
BEST WAY  
FOR EVERY-  
BODY. MAY-  
BE FOR ME  
IT IS.

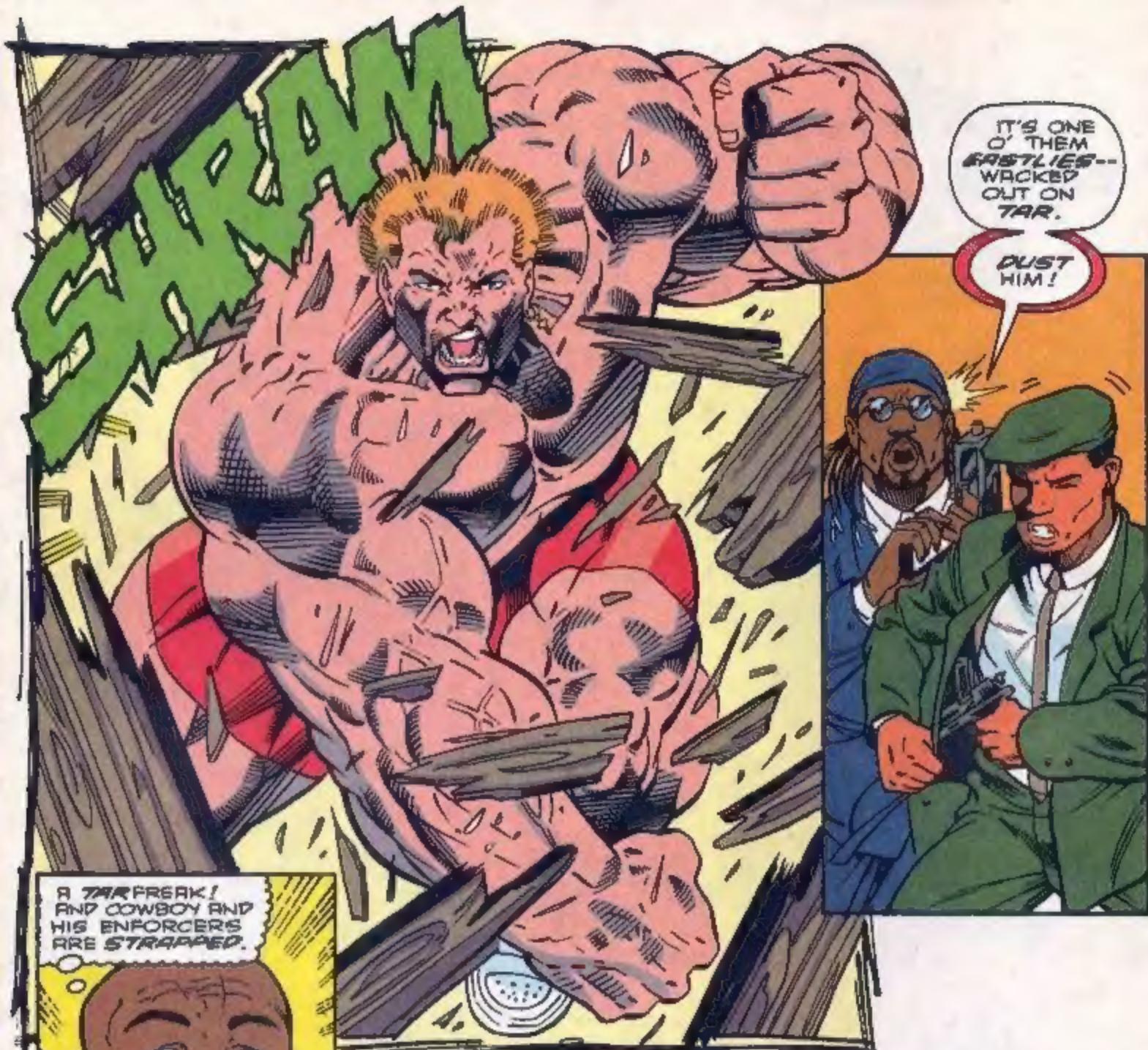
ANAYSE.

TYKE SEES  
ME IN THE  
GANGS. HE  
WANTS TO BE  
LIKE ME.

JOHN SAYS  
THE GANGS  
ARE KILLIN'  
EACH OTHER.

GRANDMA  
SAYS THEY'RE  
WRECKIN' THE  
'HOOD.

BUT I SURE  
WOULDN'T  
WANNA SEE LITTLE  
TYKE GETTIN' IN  
WITH BAD PEOPLE.



BETTER DO SOMETHIN' FAST!



TIPPED NEW  
SHOULD BURY THE  
GANG-BANGERS... AT  
LEAST FOR A WHILE.

SOMEBODY'S  
GETTIN'  
HEASED!

WISH I HAD MY  
ARMOR! TOO LATE  
TO SWERT THAT  
NOW!

NOT MUCH  
AROUND TO  
USE AS A  
WEAPON!  
BROKE THE  
PIW WHEN I  
TURNED IT  
OVER.

WHAT  
YOU DOIN'...  
BUSTIN' IN  
ON A CHURCH  
...TRASHING A  
FUNERAL?

CORPSE WAS  
A SNITCH!  
DESERVED TO  
DIE! NOW, BALDY,  
YOU GONNA  
DIE TOO!

PEW  
ACK  
WILL HAVE  
TO DO!

THAT'S  
IT--!

YER  
CRUISIN':  
LOSER!

YA MAY  
BE MEAN  
AN' LEAN,  
BUT I'M  
RULIN'!

WELL, AT  
LEAST I KNOW  
I'VE GOT HIS  
EXCLUSIVE  
ATTENTION!

EVERYBODY --  
OUT OF  
THE CHURCH.  
NOW!

JEM! YOUR  
UNCLE KNOCKED  
OVER SPIRAL'S  
COFFIN! HE--

DON'T  
SWEAT IT,  
TYKE! JUST  
DO WHAT HE  
SAYS! COME  
ON!

BREAKIN' INTO  
A CHURCH...  
INTERRUPTIN' A FUNER-  
AL. THAT'S BAD.

COWBOY  
AND JAKE  
CRIME HERB  
PACKING...  
AN' THAT'S  
NOT RIGHT  
EITHER.

MAYBE  
GANGS  
ARE  
GOIN' TOO  
FAR

ALL THE  
GANGS.

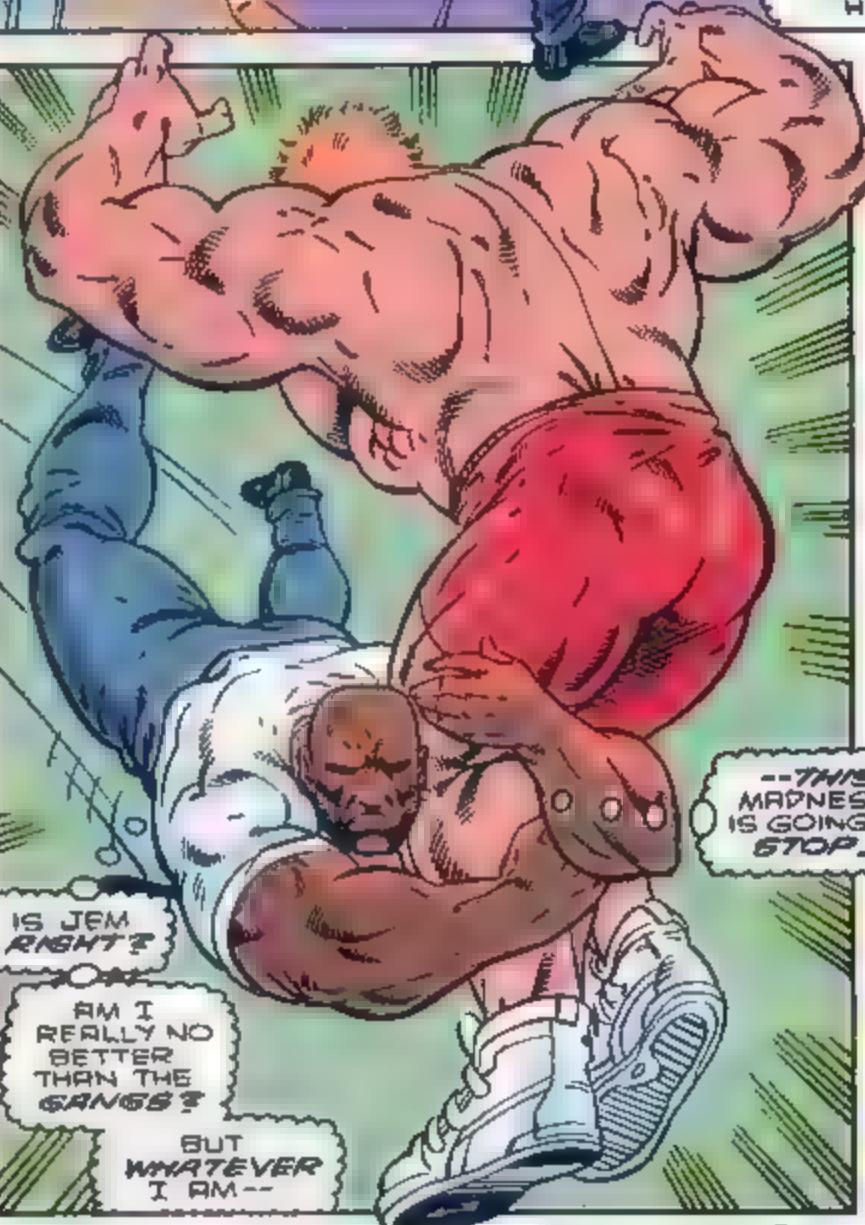
FANCY  
DANCER,  
AREN'T YA,  
TWINKLE-  
TOES ...?

LET'S SEE  
YA DODGE  
THIS!

HE'S NUTS!  
WACKED OUT  
ON TAR I'M  
NOT!

BUT I'M  
STILL SMASH-  
ING PENS AND  
TOPPLING  
COFFINS.

AN' I WAS  
WORRIED  
ABOUT THE MESS  
COWBOY  
MIGHT MAKE WITH  
HIS GUN



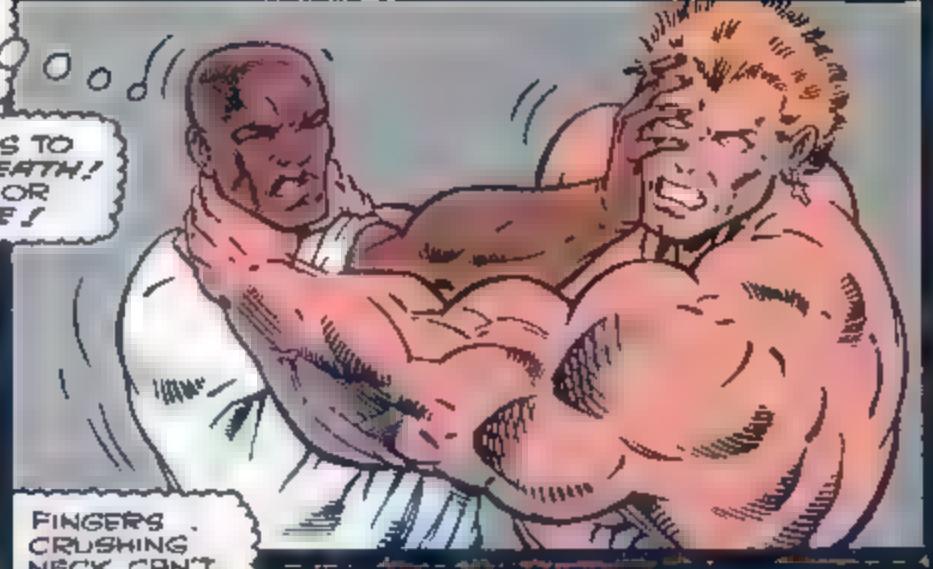
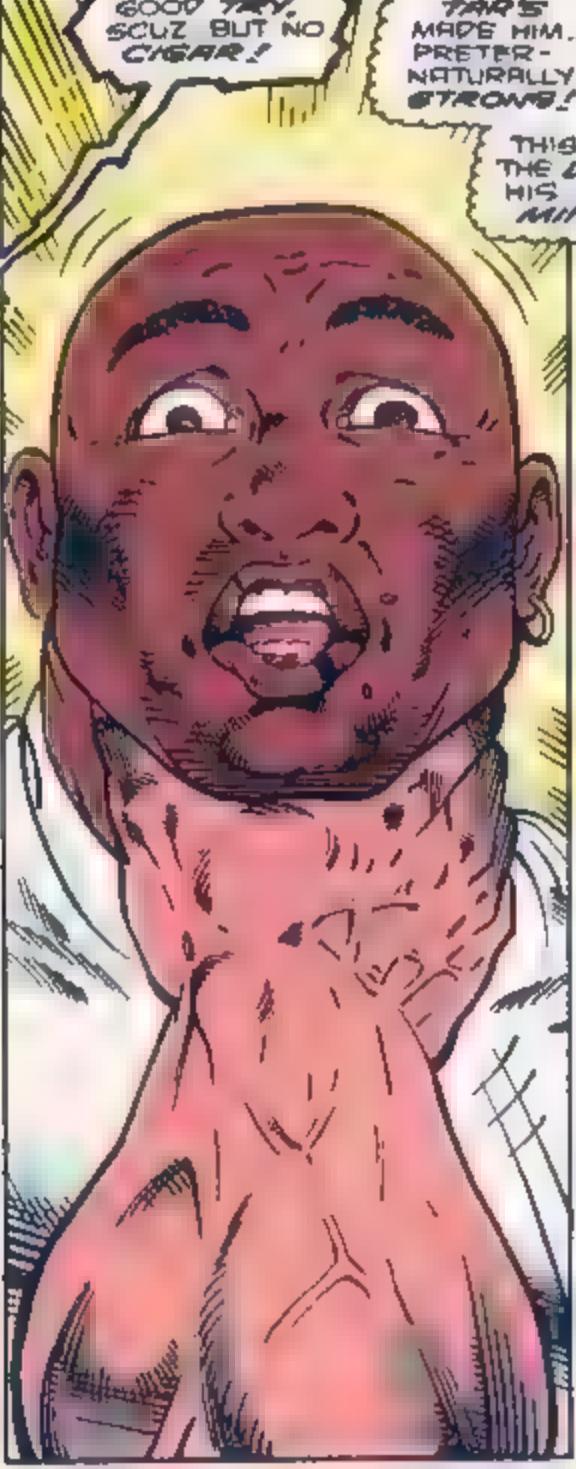
--THIS  
MADNESS  
IS GOING TO  
STOP!

OOF!

GOOD TRY,  
SCUZ BUT NO  
CIGAR!

TAR'S  
MADE HIM...  
PRETER-  
NATURALLY  
STRONG!

THIS IS TO  
THE DEATH!  
HIS OR  
MINE!



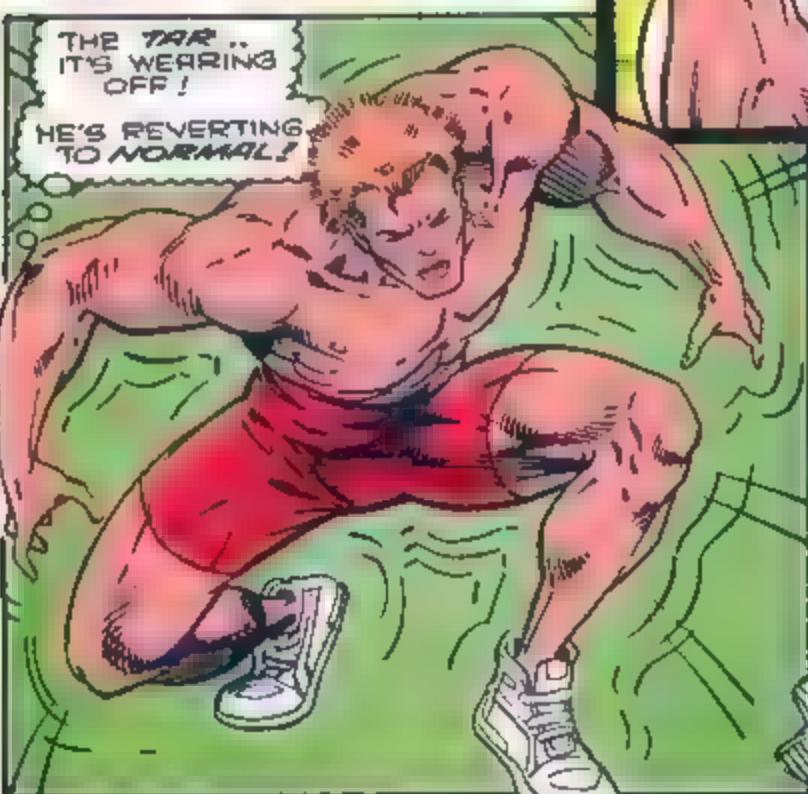
FINGERS  
CRUSHING  
NECK CAN'T  
BREATHE.



LOOKS  
LIKE...  
END...

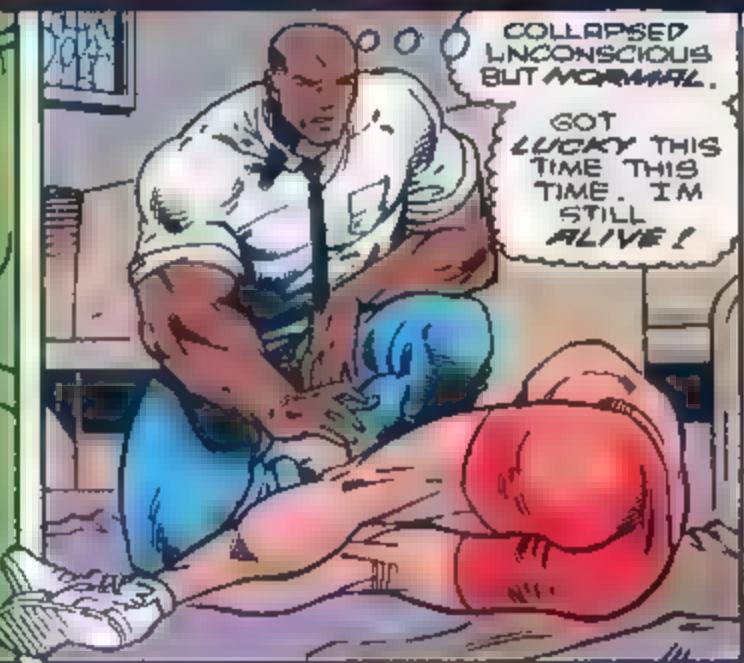


DID IT! FORCED  
HIM BACK! SEEMED  
IMPOSSIBLE!  
HOW--?



THE TAR  
IT'S WEARING  
OFF!

HE'S REVERTING  
TO NORMAL!



COLLAPSED  
UNCONSCIOUS  
BUT NORMAL.

GOT  
LUCKY THIS  
TIME THIS  
TIME. I'M  
STILL  
ALIVE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN,  
IRON'S WON?

THERE WERE  
WITNESSES,  
COLONEL, THEY  
SAID --

"...INDIRECTION."

THE TARFREAK  
WAS AN EASTLY  
RIMIN' TA DIS-  
RUPT SPIRAL'S  
FUNERAL.

HE WAS  
DISSIN'  
SPIRAL AND  
SINAVE.

NEVER MIND  
WHAT THEY  
SAID I GET ME  
A SNITCH!

SINCE THE  
DIRECT APPROACH  
FAILED, WE'LL  
TRY A LITTLE ...

YEAH! SPIRAL  
MIGHTA BEEN A  
SNITCH, BUT HE  
WAS ONE OF US!

BUT NOBODY  
RECOGNIZED  
THE TARFREAK,  
AND THE TAR LEFT  
HIM CATATONIC

I CAN'T  
BELIEVE I'M  
SAYING THIS  
I SOUND LIKE  
JOHN!

HOW DO WE  
KNOW HE  
WAS ONE OF  
THE EASTLIES?

YER KILLIN', MAN!  
WHO ELSE COULD  
IT BE? WHO ELSE  
GOT A VENDETTA  
AGAINST US?

YOUR UNCLE  
WAS A BIG HERO!  
TOOK ME AN JAKE  
OUTTA THE  
ACTION REAL  
SMOOTH.

HE DIDN'T  
SHOW NO  
RESPECT.  
AIN'T  
RIGHTEOUS.



THAT EASTLY  
DISRUPTIN'  
SPIRAL'S  
FUNERAL.

THAT AINT  
RIGHTEOUS  
EITHER.

WE  
GOTTA  
SHOW  
'EM!

EASTLIES  
STARTED  
THIS WAR!

AND  
SIN-  
AVE'S  
GONNA...

"...FINISH IT!"

# FRANK'S ARCADE

EASTLIES  
ARE IN  
THERE?

BATCH  
OF 'EM!  
SAW 'EM  
GO AWAY!

GOOD!

WHAT'S  
THAT?

A BOMB!

DROP  
'EM!

WE  
GOTTA GET  
OUTTA--

POW!  
BANG!

BOOM!

BEHIND THE  
CARS! WE'RE  
STRAPPED!  
WE CAN TAKE  
'EM!

RATTATAK!

BLAM!  
POW!  
BUDDA  
BUDDA

TOO BAD  
JEM DIDN'T  
MAKE IT!

JEM'S A  
MAGS/COWBOY'S  
SONNA BE MONDO  
PUMPED WHEN HE  
HEARS ABOUT THIS!

THEY'RE  
CRUXT BETWEEN  
OUR GUNS AND  
THE BOMBS!

WHEN IT  
BLOWS...  
EYE-EYE  
EASTLIES!

RATATAAT  
BUDDABUDDA  
POW.  
SKREECH!

CODE 3! WE  
HAVE A 10:57.  
FIREFIGHT AT  
FRANK'S ARCADE  
ON BLANK STREET  
SEND BACKUP!

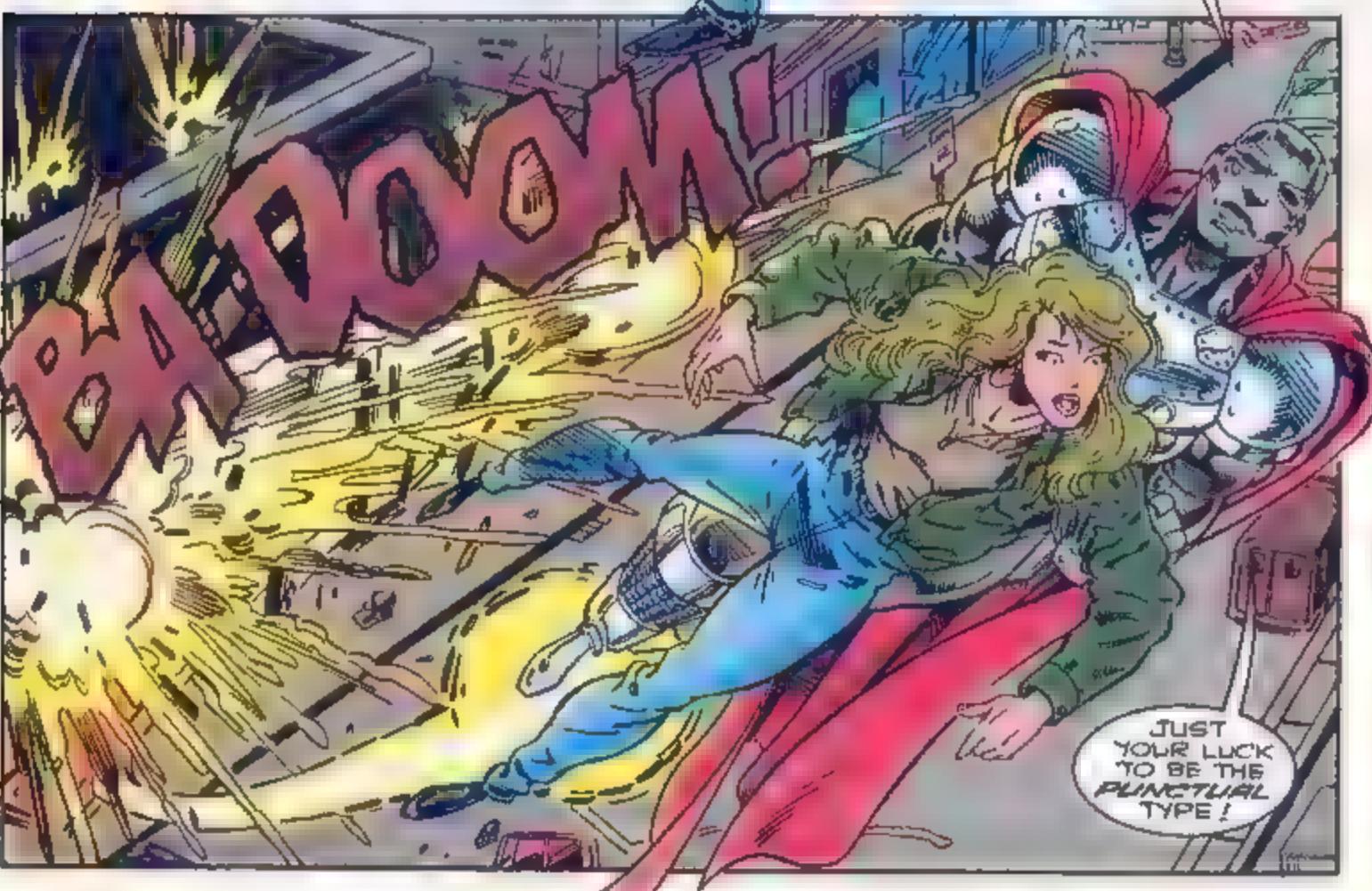
BLAST!  
STEEL SAID  
IF I WANTED  
ANSWERS  
ABOUT THE  
RMRTEK  
BOMBING...

I SHOULD  
MEET HIM AT  
FOLR ALONE  
ON THE ROOF  
OF THE DRUG-  
STORE ACROSS  
FROM FRANK'S  
ARCADE

IS IT A  
SETUP?

UP IN  
THE SKY!  
IT'S STEEL!  
BOOKS!

LIEUTENANT  
BERYL,  
I PRESUME!



I HEARD THE GANGS TALKING ABOUT THE BOMBS, BUT NOT SOON ENOUGH TO STOP IT FROM DETONATING.

THERE GO THE BOMBERS!

WAIT  
RIGHT  
THERE!  
I'LL BE  
BACK!

RIVETS!  
HE PINNED  
US HERE WITH  
FRIGGIN'  
RIVETS!

WOULDN'T  
WANT YOU  
WANDERIN' OFF  
BEFORE THE  
COPS ARRIVE TO  
TAKE YOU INTO  
CUSTODY!

WE GOT THROUGH  
THAT LINE IN A  
HURRY GRANDMA  
BESS IS GONNA  
BE GLAD.

ONLY SHE'S  
NOT MY  
GRANDMA.  
I WISH SHE  
WAS.

WISH I  
WAS YOUR  
BROTHER,  
TOO.

IT TRUE  
THAT BEIN  
IN A GANG  
TOGETHER,  
YOU'RE  
JUST LIKE  
BROT-  
HERS?

KIND OF,  
TYKE, BUT-

I'M GONNA  
JOIN SINNIE  
WHEN I'M BIG  
THEN I'LL BE  
LIKE YOUR  
BROTHER,  
TOO

LISTEN, TYKE,  
YOU KNOW,  
YOU'RE AL-  
READY LIKE A  
BROTHER TO  
ME A GANG  
WON'T--

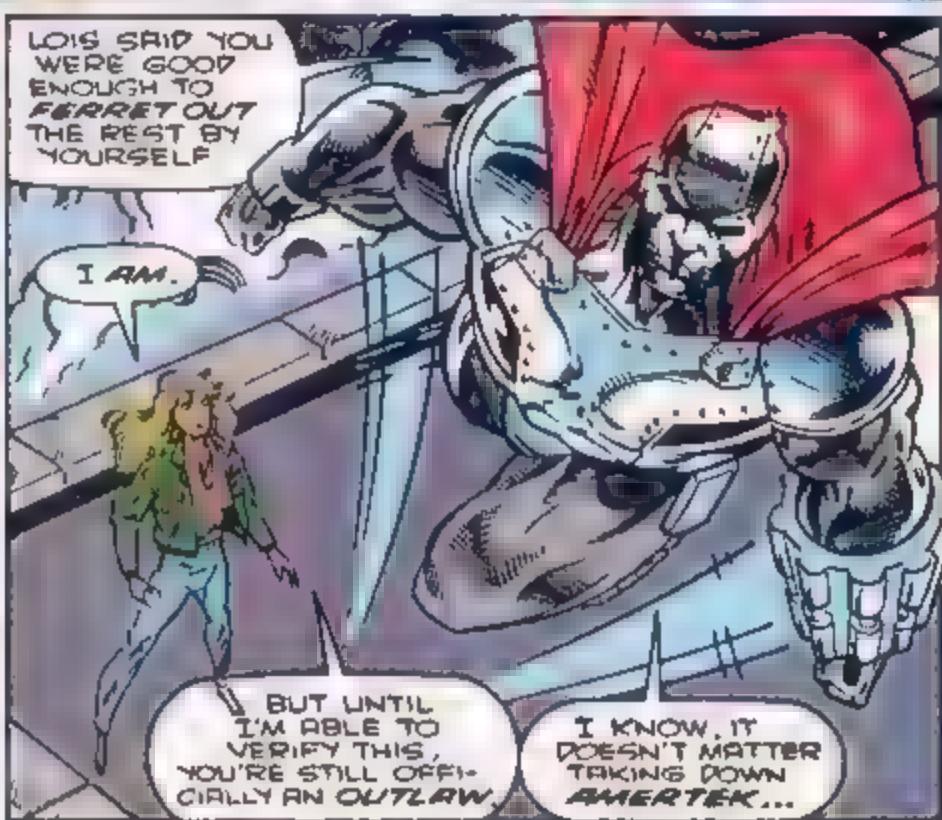
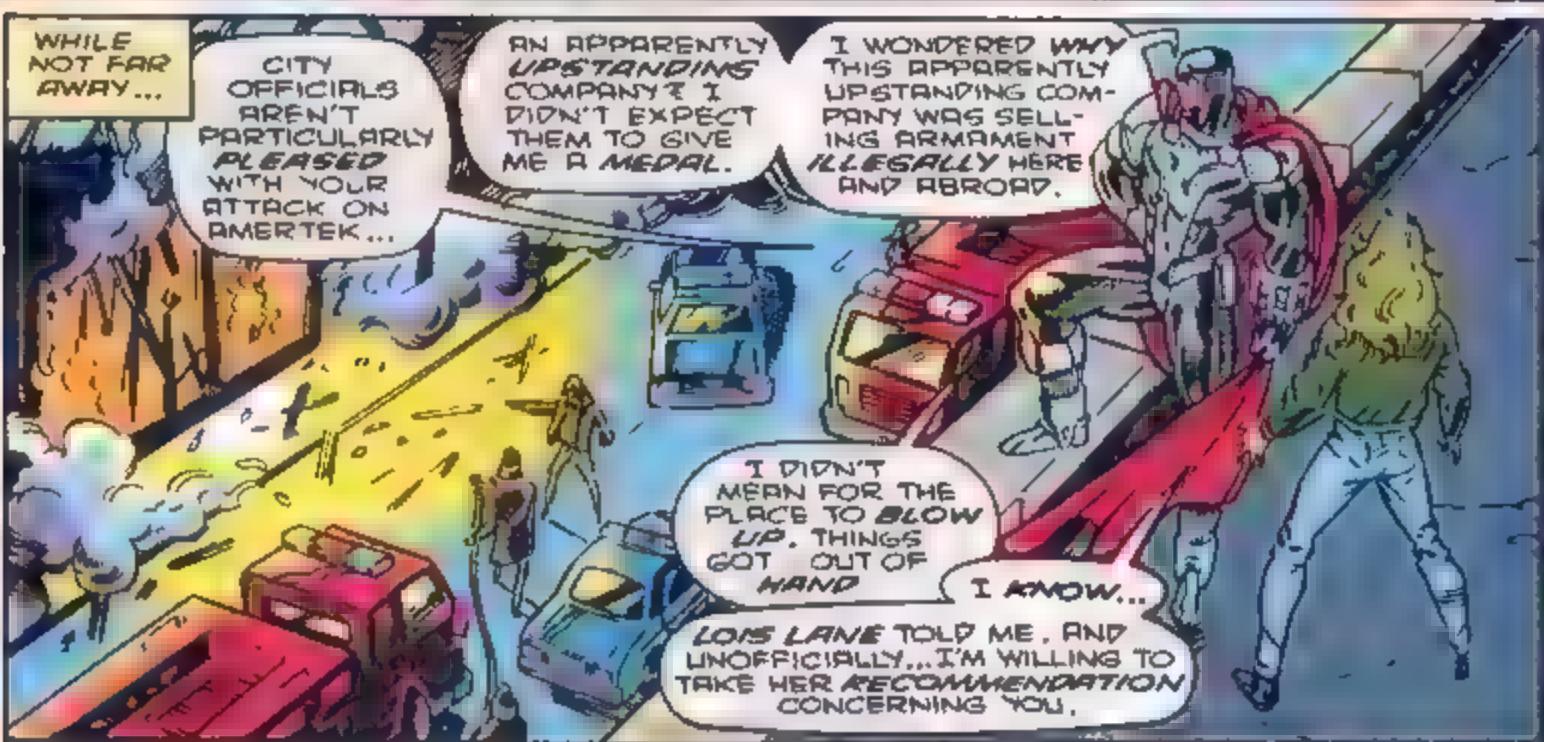
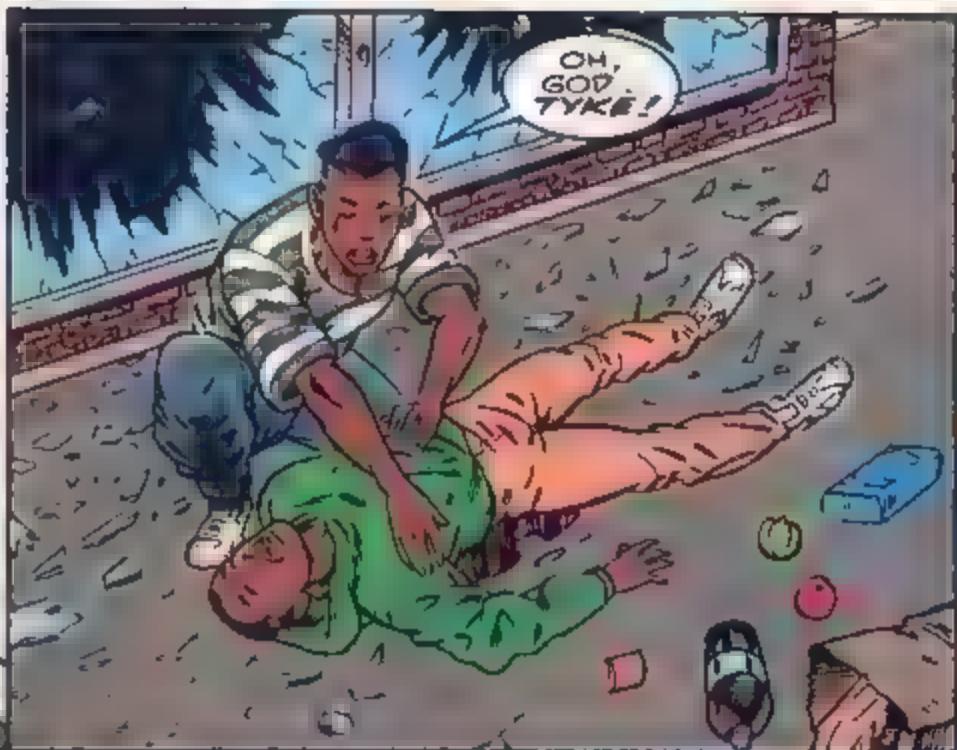
SKREECH!

IT'S THE  
EASTLIES!

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

GET DOWN!









"...IT'S THE  
BEST THAT  
I CAN DO!"

JEAN WAS  
THERE. HE  
SAW IT. HE  
ISN'T TAKING  
IT WELL.

BROODED ALL  
THROUGH  
DINNER  
LAST NIGHT.  
DIDN'T SAY  
A WORD.

COUPLE OF  
DAYS AGO,  
HE SAID I'M  
LIKES THE  
GANGS...

...ACTING OUTSIDE  
THE LAW. BUT THIS  
IS THE FRUIT OF  
GANG WARFARE.

I HOPE  
I'M DIFFERENT  
FROM THE  
GANGS...

I'VE GOT LOADS  
OF HOMEWORK,  
BUT I'LL HAVE  
TIME TO STOP  
BY AN' SEE  
HOW TYKE'S  
DOIN'.

I HATE  
CENTRAL AVE  
BEIN' LIKE  
"GINA'S"... AN'E  
STREET BEIN'  
"EASTLIES!"

I HATE  
GAMES.  
PERIOD.

"...I  
HOPE MY  
WAR BEARS  
BETTER  
FRUIT."

THWAKK!

CONTINUED IN  
**STEEL #5!**

# STEEL

Here we go with the first of the monthly (I promise) Steel letter columns. But before we begin...

**PREVIOUSLY IN STEEL:** John Henry Irons had returned to Washington, D.C. to begin life anew, only to find that his violent past had followed him there. The BG-80 "Toastmaster" guns that he invented were being used as weapons in a deadly gang war. His own nephew, Jemahl, had hooked up with the gangs. Steel confronted the man behind it all, his former employer Colonel Weston. The Colonel had been supplying not only the weapons to the gangs, but also the addictive, power-inducing TAR drug. Now, because of Steel's interference, a chain of events has been set in motion that will have a drastic effect on the entire Irons family...

Dear Steelworkers,

I've been reading comics since I was four years old, and from the beginning, Superman has always been my favorite. Looking back, I think I know why this character appealed to me more than any other hero: the content of his character. Superman's greatest powers have never been obvious, like his super-strength, speed, or vision, but rather the more subtle qualities, like his sense of honesty, fair play, and compassion. It's the latter that truly makes him a hero, and it's what has kept me on his side for more than twenty years. It's also these qualities I missed the most as I mourned his passing a year ago. Then along came John Henry Irons...

Of the four interim "Supermen," it was this second man of steel who I most took a liking to, for several reasons. One: It's always heartening to see more positive African-American characters in comics (and John Henry fits that bill both in and out of costume). Two: As rendered by Jon Bogdanove, the Man of Steel was visually stunning. Three: Here was a character with an honest-to-God moral center and sense of purpose. How often does that come down the pike these days? Not nearly often enough! As your own house ad recently put it, what makes John Henry so strong is "more than just armor...it's the man inside!"

Several months later, I am one happy fanboy. The original Man of Steel is back, alive and kicking, and we've got another one, too. Sure, he looks different, but John Henry's heart is in the same place as Clark Kent's is: the right place.

Issue #1 of STEEL, "Wrought Iron," got off to a rousing start, even though our hero didn't appear in costume until the final page. That's all right, though; it just emphasizes my previous point. Speaking of points, you guys earned a bunch for giving John Henry such a loving and supporting family. Much like Ma and Pa Kent, this is how our hero can stay focused, by having family to rely on (and sometimes fall back on). And Natasha stole my heart from her first panel.

The writing was great, briskly paced, yet underscored by character, warmth and humanity. Needless to say, this was Louise Simonson at the top of her form—and Jon Bogdanove, too. Who knew he could write? Loved Chris Batista's pencils. His composition and style are markedly different from the aforementioned Mr. Bogdanove's, but equally powerful. His people have nice smiles, tool Rich Faber's inks. Pat Broseau's letters, and Gina Going's colors were all top-notch. And to top it all off, it's all edited by our old friend Frank Pittarese. Glad to keep you as a member of the Superman family, Frank, and nice to see you moving up in the ranks.

I'll admit, I take a bit of cultural and ethnic pride in Steel, but I'm not gonna buy this book just because he's the "black Superman." Heroism is much more than skin deep. A true hero is someone you could trust with your life. A great hero could even be entrusted with your child's life. But think, if today's modern comic book heroes were real, how many of them would you want watching over your kids? Right now, probably not many, but off the top of my head, I can name two. Superman is still my favorite, but Steel is a close second.

Here's hoping John Henry has an equally long run in his own comic. I'll be watching!

Marcel L. Walker  
Verona, PA

And we'll be here! STEEL is predominantly about what it takes to be a hero. Is it the power to fly? Is it a cool suit of armor? Those things are bonuses. What it does take, and what John Henry is learning, is that being a hero is about courage...it's about respect...it's about, well, the kinds of things you mentioned in your letter! Thanks for the kind words, Marcel (and for the cool sketch).

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Frank,

The first new issue of STEEL was fantastic! Batista and Faber are new names to me, but from what I see here, they are additions to my very short "favorite artists" list. Bogdanove and Simonson's writing was expertly done, really tight, and well paced.

I do have a few questions, though. John Henry has a large family, and I understand his relationship to most of them, but is Blondell his sister, cousin, or what? And where are his parents?

Keep up the great work!

Matt Algren  
Ohio, USA

Hope you like soap operas, 'cause this gets a little complicated. Bass and Henry, John's grandparents, had two children. One was John's mother, and the other, a son (who was more like a brother to John Henry), married Blondell. So Blondell is John's aunt, by marriage,

## DC COMICS

1335 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019

JENETTE KAHN, President & Editor-In-Chief

PAUL LEVITZ, Executive VP & Publisher

FRANK PITTAURE, Editor

JOE ORLANDO, VP-Creative Director

TOM BALLOU, VP-Advertising

BRUCE BRISTOW, VP-Sales & Marketing

PATRICK CALDON, VP-Finance & Operations

TERRI CUNNINGHAM, Managing Editor

CHANTAL D'AULNE, VP-Business Affairs

LILLIAN LABERSON, VP & General Counsel

SEYMOUR MILES, VP-Associate Publisher

BOB ROZAKIS, Executive Director-Production

although they don't seem to be very far apart in age.

John Henry's parents, as far as we know, are dead.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Frank,

A hero with a strong sense of duty and responsibility, coupled with natural humility, were what attracted me to Steel during the "Reign of the Supermen." I'm glad to see those traits are even more evident here in the first issue of STEEL. I thought this was a strong debut, especially John's speech about not being able to wear Superman's shield because he might have to operate outside the law. Such a decision shows respect for Superman's legacy and at the same time allows John Henry to form his own legend.

Perhaps an even greater reason why I like John Henry is that he's the type of honest, decent person you'd actually like to know personally. In this era of grim and gritty heroes, that's something that's important to me. We need more heroes like John Henry.

As for the focus of the book, I hope it is more upon John Henry himself than his alter ego, Steel.

I like the idea of his nephew Jemahl being involved in a gang equipped with Toastmasters, as it will bring even closer to home the responsibility that John needs to balance. The other plus is the strong sense of family in this book. I hope we get the chance to learn about each of the members of John's family.

As for a letter column name, I have no suggestions other than that, whatever you choose, you extend the letters page to two pages.

James Evans  
Ithaca, NY

You got it! As of next issue you'll get two pages of letters a month every month, plus in a couple of issues we'll reveal the official name of this here page! So, if you haven't sent in a suggestion yet, hurry!

John Henry's life will be as action-packed and tumultuous as we can make it! As for his family, it's great that you like them so much. You'll be seeing plenty of them in the coming months... dead or alive! And, on that note...

**NEXT ISSUE:** What could possibly drive Jemahl to take TAR? The shooting of Tyke? Natasha's hit-and-run "accident"? Or will another innocent member of the Irons family be struck down in cold blood? An act of vengeance takes its toll when Steel is forced to confront his nephew in "Retaliation!" On sale in thirty!

This issue's cover was pencilled by Jon Bogdanove, inked by Dennis Janke... but you know that already, because you all read MAN OF STEEL!